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MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

* NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER *

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Newsletter No. 49 March 1981

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## *⁂ IN THIS ISSUE... ⁂*

Spring meeting registration...It's election time! (Ballot enclosed)...Reports from New Haven...Performing arts at the Fitchburg Public Library...and more!

## *⁂ MLA COMMEMORATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY ⁂*

Over 350 participants attended MLA's Anniversary Meeting at the Sheraton-Park Plaza Hotel in New Haven during the week of February 9-14, 1981. Hosted by the Music Library at Yale University, MLA observed its birthday at the site of its very first meeting, 50 years ago. The occasion gave all in attendance the opportunity to look back over the last half century and to reflect on the events and the people that contributed to the growth of MLA and the profession of music librarianship as a whole.

A particularly inspiring aspect of the convention was the presence of several of the founding fathers who recalled for all the first and formative years of the organization. But while some sessions provided a good deal of nostalgia and entertainment, the meeting also afforded a hard look at the present and the future for MLA and for music libraries in this country. Because of the consistently high quality of each program, those who were unable to travel to New Haven should certainly watch for the detailed reports from the meeting which will be published in the Spring issue of the national MLA Newsletter.

Especial thanks and congratulations are in order for our own chapter members Harold Samuel and the staff of the Yale University Music Library. They accomplished a flawless feat in co-ordinating and programming a most memorable anniversary meeting.

Jean Morrow
New England Conservatory

## *⁂ SPRING MEETING NOTES ⁂*

The spring meeting of the chapter will be held on April 11, 1981 at the Portland Public Library, Portland, Maine. A detailed program, registration form and travel information provided by our host Judith Wentzell appear infra. Please note that there are no advance luncheon reservations, as the nearby Old Port Exchange area affords a number of varied and interesting places to eat. Our thanks to Judith and to Gerry Ostrove for planning what promises to be a really interesting program. As always, walk-in registrants are welcome.

## *⁂ HOT OFF THE PRESS! ⁂*

The DIRECTORY OF MUSIC LIBRARIES AND COLLECTIONS IN NEW ENGLAND, 6th ed., is now in print! The new edition, a full 93 pages long, is the biggest and handsomest ever, boasting 24 new entries and sporting a sturdy and attractive sand-hue cover. As in the previous edition, entries are alphabetical, with indexes by state, library name and personal name. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the chapter's Publications Committee, the Directory was out in time for display at the national meeting in New Haven, where many of you may have seen it at the MLA exhibit table.

The price for the new edition is $3.50 for New England chapter members and $4.50 for non-members; copies may be purchased at the Portland meeting or ordered by mail from Philip Youngholm, Greer Music Library, Box 1534, New London, CT 06320. Mail orders may be prepaid or billed as you prefer.

Congratulations and appreciation are due to the entire Publications Committee for a product of which the entire membership can be justly proud: Dorothy Bognar, Chair, Patricia Brennan, Geraldine Ostrove, Cynthia Pawlek, and Phil Youngholm.

## AACR2 WORKSHOP MARCH 27TH

The New England Chapter is pleased to announce that it will be holding an AACR2 workshop on March 27th, 1981 at Wellesley College. Principal guest speaker for the workshop will be Richard Hunter of the Library of Congress, with additional presentations and a hands-on session led by our region's own top music catalogers. Any reader who did not receive a registration invitation in the mail but would like to attend is urged to contact Sally Evans, Vincent Morgan Library, Amherst College, Amherst, MA 01002 (Tel. 413 542-2387) as soon as possible for a pre-workshop mailing.

## REPORT FROM NEW HAVEN--#2
## MUSIC ACQUISITIONS WORKSHOP
## FEBRUARY 11th, 1981

It is too bad that only one day was available during this conference for a workshop that obviously filled a large gap in the knowledge of music librarians from all over the country. Thanks to Ruth Tucker's (Cornell U.) excellent coordination of the events, a week's worth of education was smoothly condensed into nine hours of panels and meetings, supplemented by many to-the-point handouts. After Walter Gerboth's (Brooklyn College) observations about the twenty-year trend from the "age of rampant reprints" to the "age of contraction" introduced a suitably cautious frame of mind, a panel of European and American dealers presented insights into their functions and problems. Hendrik Edelman (Rutgers U.) and Neil Ratliff (U. of MD) followed with the librarian's perspective on collection development. In the afternoon, small group sessions defined by topics or library types allowed for much more specific attention to the problems of music librarians, such as what bits of information are needed on an order form, and which are the best recording catalogs. The verbal exchange was supplemented by many valuable handouts, the most substantial being a detailed Dealer Services Questionnaire put together by Ruth Tucker, and yielding much intimate information about dealers' practices and attitudes. With so much ready educational material, and so many knowledgeable people available to soothe one's acquisitions anxieties and advise on future practices, the 1981 Music Acquisition Workshop was truly a smash hit!

Kersti Tannberg
Wheaton College

## FUNCTION OF NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Executive Board at its meeting on February 12th decided that effective with the election this spring, the duties of newsletter editor would be removed from the office of Secretary-Treasurer and appointed by the Chapter Chairperson. The Board felt that the responsibilities as presently combined were excessive for a single office. There is precedent for this distribution of duties within other MLA chapters. Current nominees for office were advised of this change when their nominations were sought. Ivy Anderson will continue in the position of editor.

## WELCOME WAGON

NEMLA is pleased to welcome the following new and returning members: Mary Curtin-Stevenson (Emerson College), Susan Dearborn (Harvard University Development Office), Kenneth Pristash (New England Conservatory), And Sarah J. Shaw (Brown University).

## MEMBERS IN ARREARS

(The following policy was adopted by the Executive Board at its meeting on February 12).

Members whose dues have not been paid at the time of the fall meeting will receive 1st and 2nd dues reminders and will be retained on the mailing list through the spring newsletter issue, at which time their membership and all regular mailings shall be discontinued. If you find a dues reminder slip enclosed with this newsletter, this means you! Inflation has eaten heavily into the newsletter budget, and the postal rate increase will not help us either. Please do your part and keep your membership current!

## FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

The performing arts program began in 1972, partly to draw attention to the Library's new Sunday hours. It has been funded every year since then by Library Friends and Trustees and by the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities and has expanded to include, in addition to a variety of concerts in the First Sundays monthly concert series, programs of poetry, drama, mime, storytelling and dance. Approximately fourteen programs are now offered each season.

The program has included appearances by Boston Symphony musicians, harpsichordist John Gibbons, humorist Marshall Dodge, The New Black Eagle Jazz Band, The Pocket Mime Theater, and others of a calibre scarcely available in the area. Accomplished area artists and programs especially related to local ethnic groups have also been included.

The performing arts program is an integral part of the Library's educational, cultural, and recreational services. It makes good use of the Library's 204-seat auditorium and administrative capabilities, adds to and enriches the experience of our written and recorded materials, promotes closer ties with and greater visibility in the community, and serves some people who do not generally use more traditional library services. Moreover, it enriches the community by fostering the experience of live arts events and promoting community pride.

Since programs are free and usually given during daylight Sunday hours, they are particularly accessible to senior citizens and to students, some of whom attend in conjunction with work for music classes. Audiences include people of all ages who have come from as many as 20 different area cities and towns. Programs are generally very well attended, with audiences numbering an average of about 150/program.

As the Library has become known in the community as an arts program sponsor, it was one of the founding members in 1979 of the Fitchburg Cultural Alliance and is a member of the Cultural Commission designed to oversee expenditure of any Arts Lottery funds which may be forthcoming.

Janet Male
Fitchburg Public Library

(N.B. The Editor is pleased to publish reports focusing on the activities of area libraries. Members are encouraged to submit articles for inclusion in future issues.)

## REPORT FROM NEW HAVEN--#3
## MUSIC OCLC USERS GROUP MEETING
## FEBRUARY 9-10, 1981

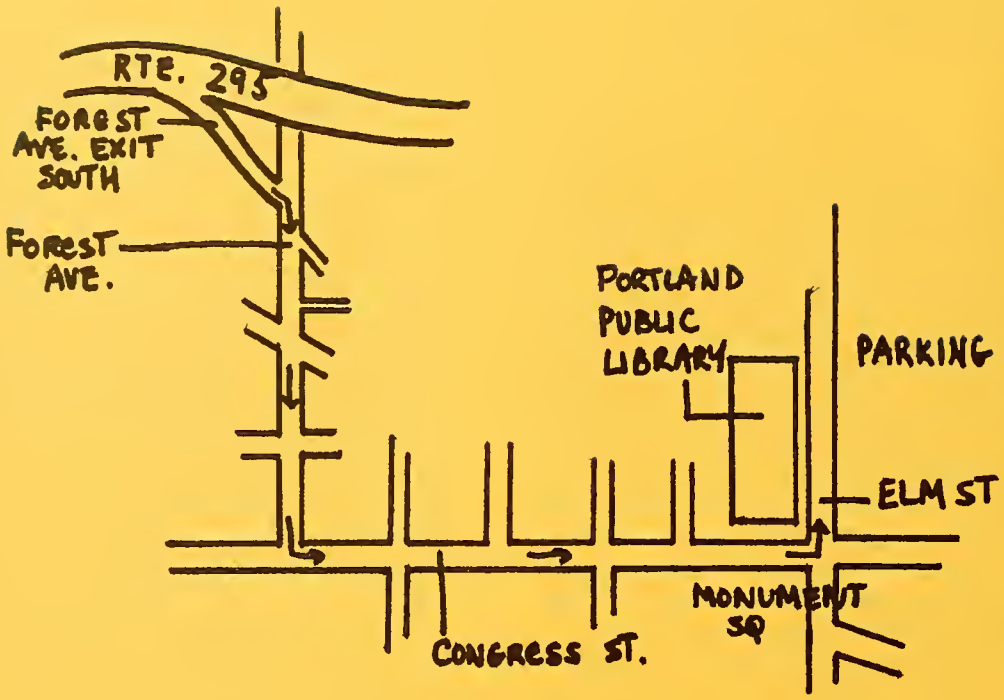
The two-day meeting of the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) which took place February 9-10 in New Haven was a useful and informative event at this transitional time in our national cataloging life. Naturally much of the meeting centered on AACR2 and related issues such as standards for input of retrospective records and the LC Name Authority File. This focus on cataloging was nicely balanced on the second day by a session devoted to Reference Use of OCLC.

NELINET Music Users Group members who attended the meeting will have found much of the tagging information covered already familiar from their last regional meeting, a tribute to the initiative our local organization has taken in keeping us abreast of current developments. Meanwhile the question on everyone's mind was: What caused numerous headings not to "flip" or to "flip" incorrectly in OCLC's machine conversion of the data base, and how soon would these headings be corrected? OCLC personnel assured us in the course of their discussion of a variety of activities and future developments that lists of voluminous headings needing correction were slated for conversion before March 1st, the date on which OCLC will begin a 9-month moratorium on all software manipulations as they move to new headquarters. But perhaps the most welcome news of the meeting came from LC's Katherine Garland, who told us that LC hopes to implement MARC for music by November of this year.

The session on reference use of OCLC was in some ways the most interesting portion of the meeting. Papers by librarians from Eastman School of Music, Indiana U. and the Kennedy School of Govt. stressed the many types of questions from bibliographical and locational to factual that could be answered through the data base--as many as one in four according to one speaker. Interested persons may want to watch for publication of these papers in an upcoming issue of the MOUG Newsletter.

The meeting closed with a session on quality control lead by our own former Robert Cunningham. The message: Send in those Change Requests, folks!

Ivy Anderson
Brandeis




PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, 5 MONUMENT SQUARE, PORTLAND, MAINE 207-773-4761
(Library is actually on Congress Street)

By Car:

From South: Take the Maine Turnpike to Exit 6A. This exit leads directly to Route 295 which continues to Portland. Exit off Route 295 at Forest Avenue South (Exit 6) continuing straight on Forest Avenue. Take a left onto Congress Street when Forest Avenue ends at top of hill. The Library will be on the left about 5 blocks down opposite the Monument. Take a left at light immediately after Monument onto Elm Street where there is parking available on the right. There is also limited parking available behind the Library.

From North: Again come into Portland on Route 295 and take the Forest Avenue South Exit. Continue as above.

By Bus:

The Greyhound Bus Station is at the other end of Congress Street from the Library. Take any bus marked Munjoy South or Munjoy North to Monument Square which leave on the hour and at twenty and forty past the hour. Bus fare is 50¢ exact change.

Trailways Station is on High Street. Walk up High Street to Congress Street and take a left. Monument Square is about 6 blocks down.

MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

SPRING MEETING - APRIL 11, 1981
PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
5 Monument Square Portland, Maine

Unless otherwise indicated, events will take place in the Meeting Room, downstairs on Level 1 (the library entrance is on Level 2).

On exhibit in the Portland Room, third floor, "Maine Sheet Music Imprints," including works by John Knowles Paine.

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| 9:00-10:00 | Registration, coffee and pastry |
| 10:00-10:15 | Welcome, by Mr. Edward V. Chenevert, Director, Portland Public Library |
| 10:15-12:15 | Reorganizing Your Job When the Library Expands or Moves<br>Francis L. Gramenz, Boston University<br>Ruth Bleecker, Boston Public Library<br>Judith Wentzell, Portland Public Library<br>Kersti Tannberg, Wheaton College<br>Geraldine Ostrove, moderator |
| 12:15-2:15 | Lunch on-the-town. Self-guided tour of Portland Public Library, Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson & Abott, architects |
| 1:30-2:15 | Guided tour of the library. Maximum, 15 persons; sign up when you register in the morning. |
| 2:15-3:15 | Special Funds for the Music Library: What You Can Do if You Can Be a Fund Raiser and What You Can Do if You Can't<br>Susan Dearborn, Development Office, Harvard University<br>Michael Ochs, Music Librarian, Harvard University |
| 3:30-4:00 | Annual business meeting of the Chapter<br>Brenda Chasen Goldman, presiding |
| 4:00<br>Staff Room,<br>Fourth Floor | Sherry hour. Host, Portland Public Library |

OUR THANKS TO THE LIBRARY FOR THEIR INVITATION TO THE CHAPTER, FOR THE USE OF THEIR FACILITIES, AND FOR SPONSORSHIP OF THE SHERRY HOUR.

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MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER
REGISTRATION FOR SPRING MEETING, APRIL 11, 1981

Name _____

Institution _____

Address _____

☐ Registration $2.50

~~Chapter dues, 1981-82~~
~~☐ Regular members $4.00~~

☐ Students $2.50

TOTAL ENCLOSED $____

RETURN THIS FORM BY APRIL 4, 1981 TO:
Ms. Judith Wentzell
Art/Music Librarian (Be sure to include)
Portland Public Library
5 Monument Square
Portland, Maine 04101

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